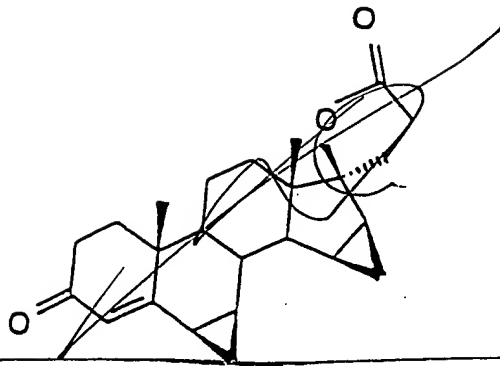


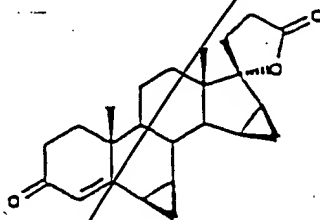
C1 10190



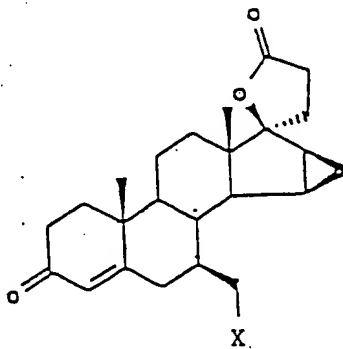
Sub  
D2

8. (Amended) A composition comprising 6 $\beta$ , 7 $\beta$ ; 15 $\beta$ , 16 $\beta$ -dimethylene-3-oxo-17 $\alpha$ -pregn-4-ene-21, 17-carbolactone of claim 4, a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and less than 0.2% by weight of said compound of the contaminants

C2



and

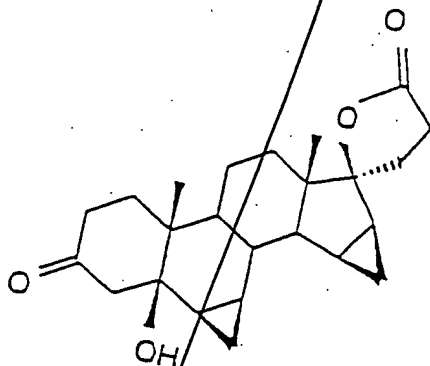


wherein X is an anion of an acid which is effective to open said 6 $\beta$ , 7 $\beta$ -methylene group. --

Please add the following new claims:

6--10. A composition comprising

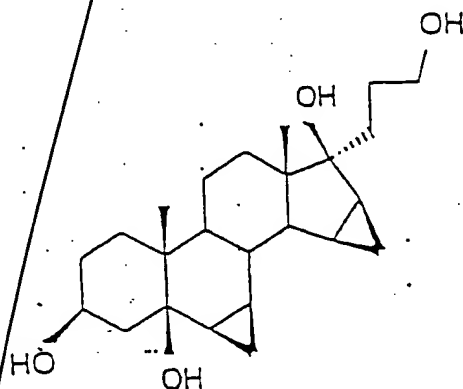
(a) 6 $\beta$ , 7 $\beta$ ; 15 $\beta$ , 16 $\beta$ -dimethylene-3-oxo-17 $\alpha$ -pregn-4-ene-21, 17-carbolactone of claim 4 made by a process comprising dehydrating a compound of Formula III,



III

which was made by oxidizing in the presence of a ruthenium salt a compound of Formula

II,



II

3

SCH 1664 C1

20

C

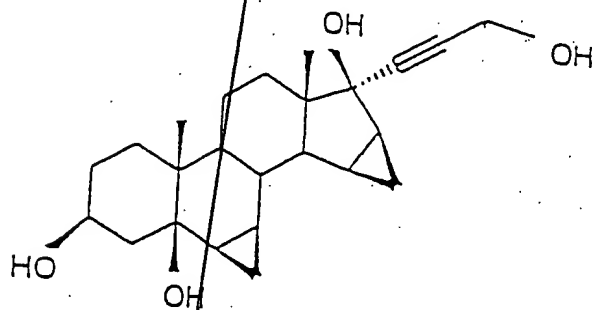
Sub  
D2

C3

10200

10201

which was made by catalytically hydrogenating a compound of Formula I

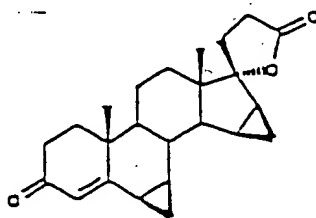


(b) a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and

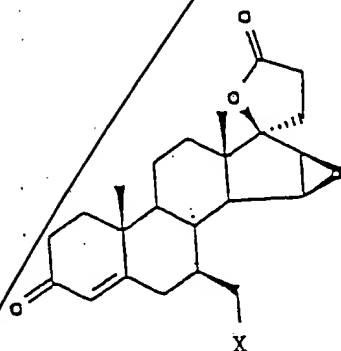
(c) less than 0.2% by weight of said compound (a) of the byproducts of said

preparation process which are

T0211



and



C3

wherein X is an anion of an acid which is effective to open said 6 $\beta$ , 7 $\beta$ -methylene group.

7 11. A compound of claim <sup>4</sup>8, wherein in said process, said dehydrating is performed after said compound of Formula III is isolated from the medium in which it is prepared.

8 12. A compound of claim <sup>3</sup>6, wherein in said process, said dehydrating is performed after said compound of Formula III is isolated from the medium in which it is prepared.--